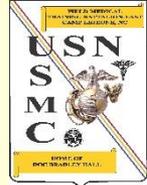


Defensive Fundamentals



OVERVIEW



◆ **Defensive Combat**

- Defensive Combat Purpose
- Defensive Combat Mission
- Defensive Combat Definitions

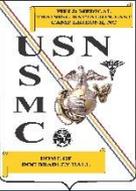
◆ **Fundamentals of Defensive**

- Preparation, Concentration & Flexibility
- Maximum Use of Offensive Action
- Proper Use of Terrain
- Mutual Support & Defense in Depth
- Surprise & Knowledge of the Enemy

◆ **Defensive Missions of the Squad**

- Frontline Squad
- Squad as Part of the Reserves
- Squad as a Security Element

OVERVIEW (Continued)



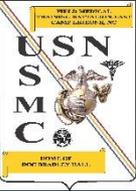
◆ **Military Symbols for a Fire Plan Sketch**

- Squad Leader and Squad Member Symbols
- Types & Sizes of Units
- Combining Basic Symbols (Units & Positions)
- Weapons & Obstacle Symbols
- Miscellaneous & Enemy Position Symbols

◆ **Priorities of Work in the Defense**

- The Elements of a Fire Plan Sketch
- The Squad Leader and his Fire Plan
- The Fire Team Leader and his Fire Plan
- The Seven Tasks of S.A.F.E.- S.O.C.
- Fire Team Members - (Automatic Rifleman, Assistant Automatic Rifleman & Rifleman)

OVERVIEW (Continued)



◆ Defensive Procedures

- Receiving a Defense Order
- Preparation for Defense
- Opening Fire and Fire Control
- Final Protective Fires
- Enemy Reaches the Squad's Position

◆ Characteristics of Fighting Positions

- The Purpose of Fighting Holes
- One Man Fighting Holes
- Two Man Fighting Holes
- Parapet, Elbow Rest & Firing Step
- Water Sump & Grenade Sump
- Skirmishers Trench
- Constructing Obstacles

LEARNING OBJECTIVES



Please Read Your

Terminal Learning Objectives

And

Enabling Learning Objectives

QUESTIONS

DEFENSIVE COMBAT (Purpose)



- **The Purpose of Defensive Action:**
 - is to retain or control terrain, gain time, develop more favorable action, or to economize forces to allow the concentration of forces elsewhere.



MCRP 3-10A.4, Para 5101

DEFENSIVE COMBAT (Mission)

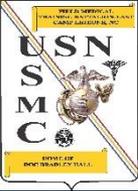


○ The Mission of Infantry in the Defense:

- is with the support of other arms, to stop the enemy by fire as he approaches the battle position, to repel his assault by close combat if he reaches the battle position, and to destroy him by counterattack if he enters the battle position.



MCRP 3-10A.4, Para 5102

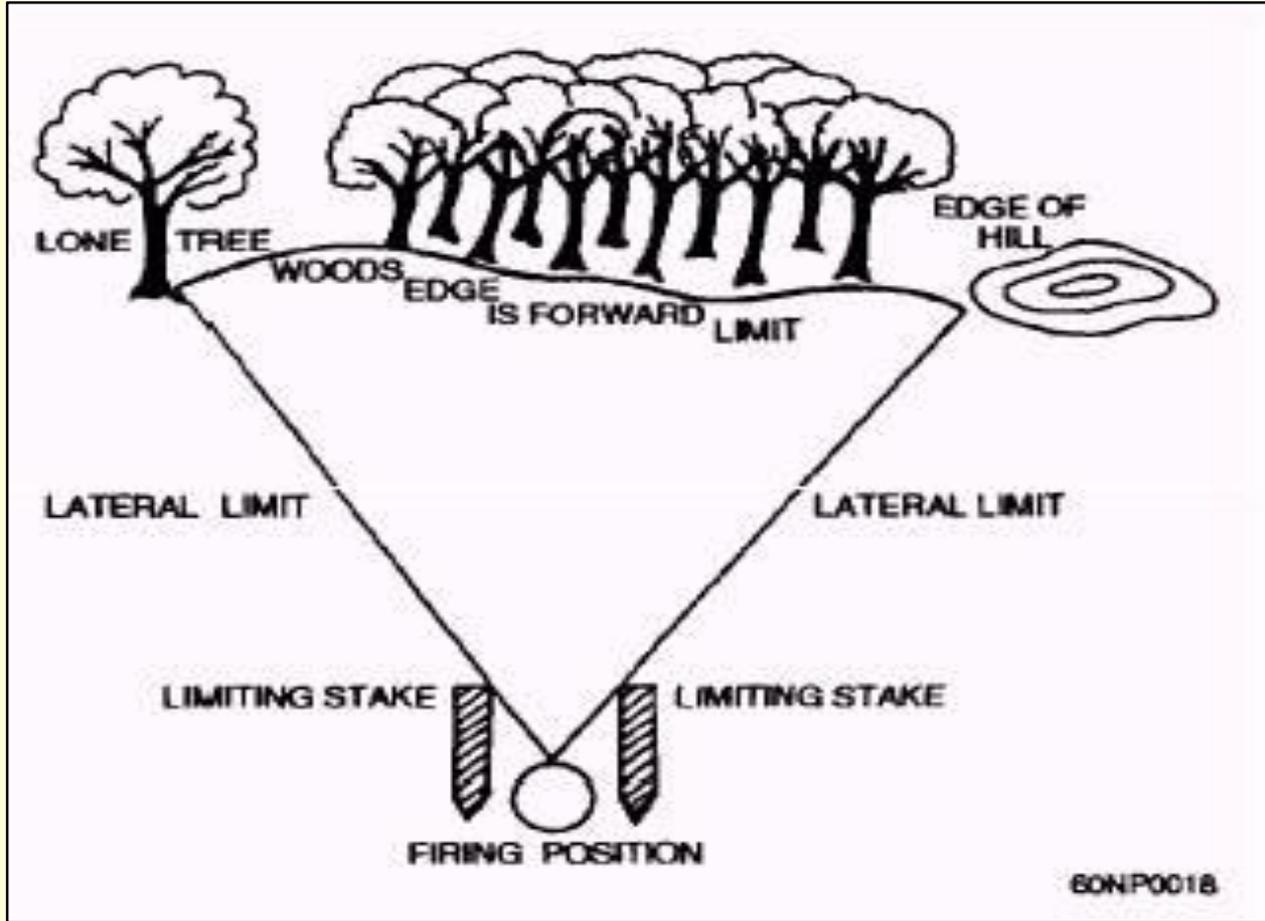


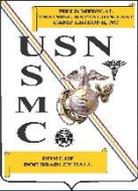
DEFENSIVE COMBAT (Definitions)

- **Sector of Fire:**
 - A sector of fire is an area which is required to be covered by fire by an individual, a squad, or a crew-served weapon.
- **Lateral Limits:**
 - Readily identifiable terrain features, indicating the line of sight along each side of the sector. These terrain features are located near the **Forward Limit** of the sector so that all fire team members assigned to cover this sector use the same limiting features. (Two stakes, placed near the position of the weapon, are used to indicate the lateral limits during periods of restricted visibility.
- **Forward Limit:**
 - Is established at the range at which weapon will fire up to their maximum effective range.

DEFENSIVE COMBAT (Definitions)

- Sector of Fire Diagram with Lateral Limits, Forward Limits and Lateral Limit Stakes:





DEFENSIVE COMBAT (Definitions)

○ **Fighting Position:**

- Is a location on the ground from which fire is delivered by an individual, squad, or crew-served weapon.

○ **Primary Fighting Position:**

- Is the best available position from which the assigned sector of fire can be covered.

○ **Alternate Fighting Position:**

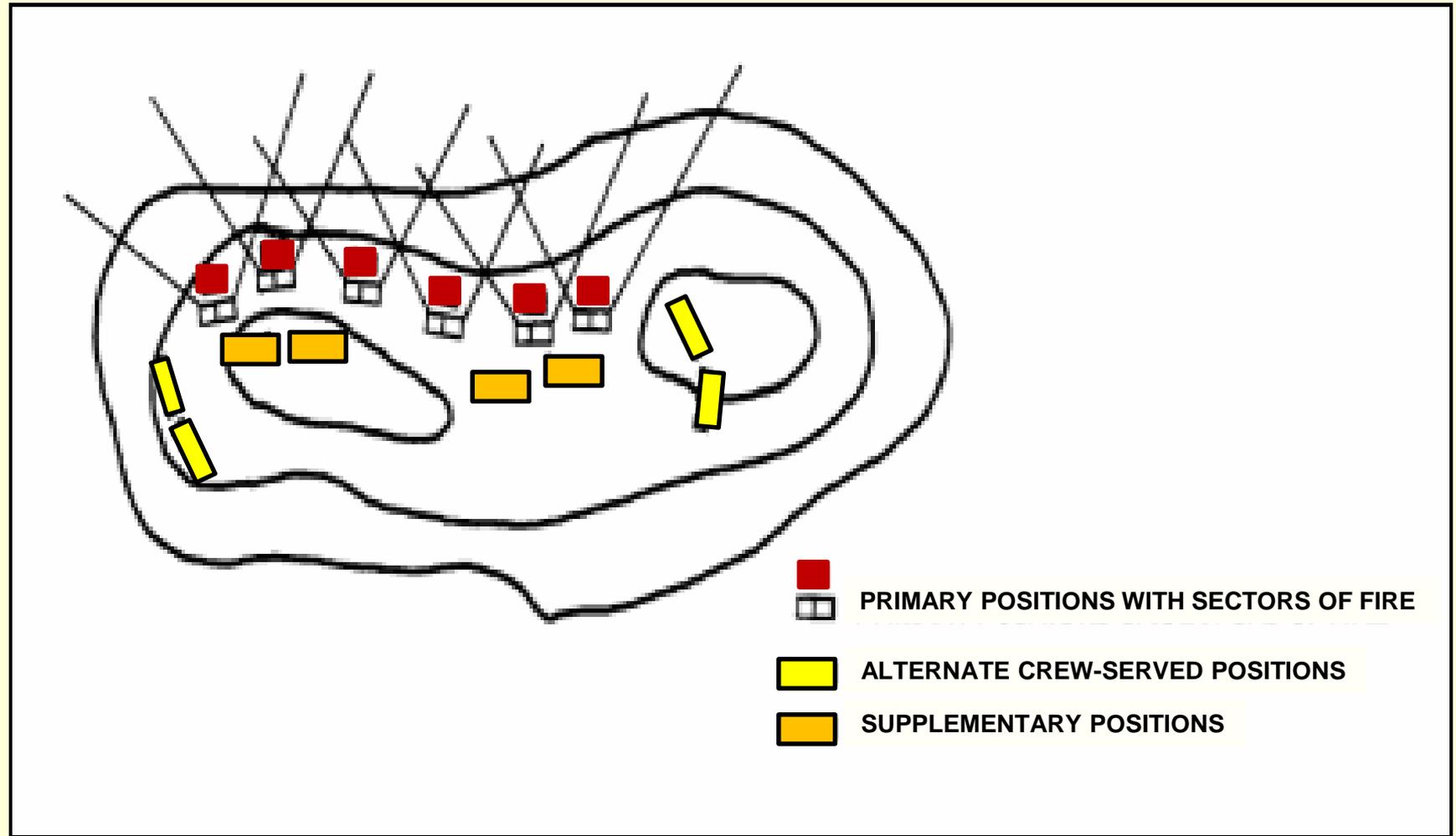
- Are primarily used by crew-served weapons if the primary position becomes untenable or unsuited for carrying out that mission.

○ **Supplementary Fighting Position:**

- Is a secondary position, prepared to guard against attack from directions other than those from which the main attack is expected and does not cover the same sectors of fire as the Primary Position.

DEFENSIVE COMBAT (Definitions)

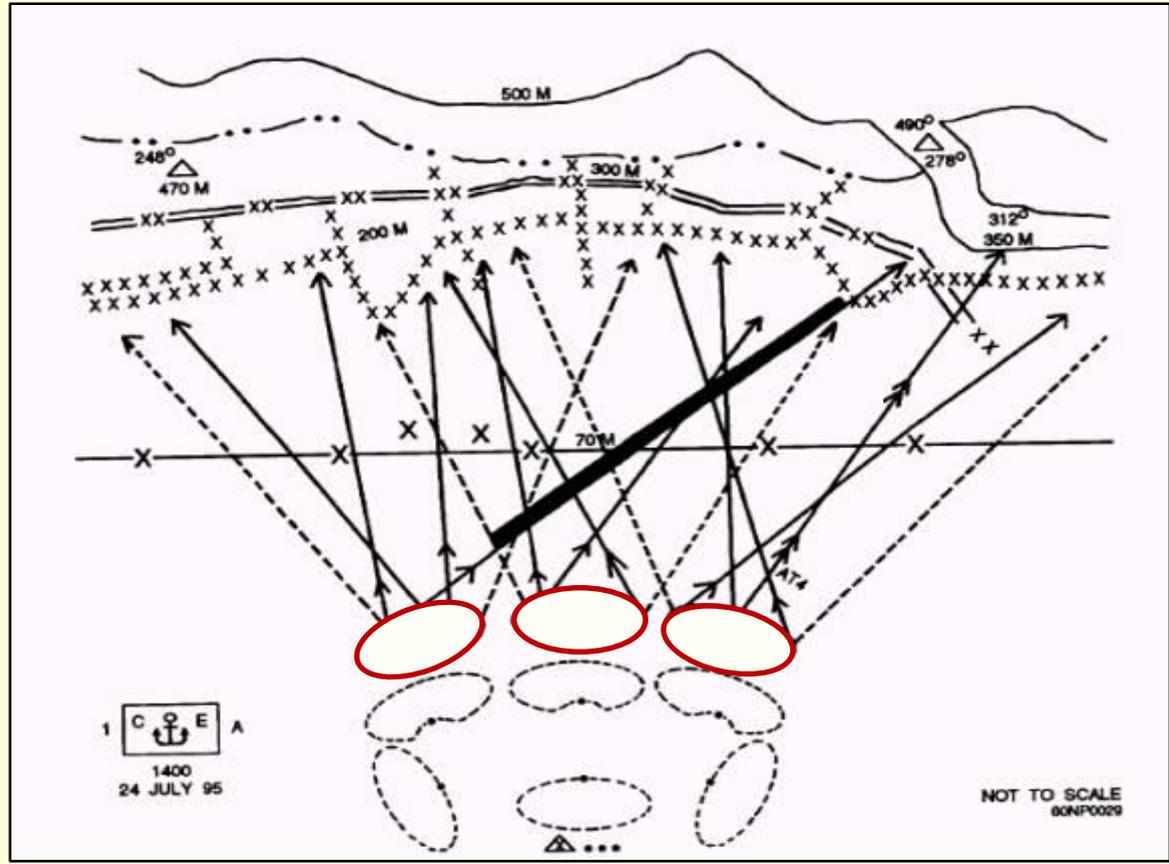
○ Primary, Alternate & Supplementary Fighting Positions:



DEFENSIVE COMBAT (Definitions)

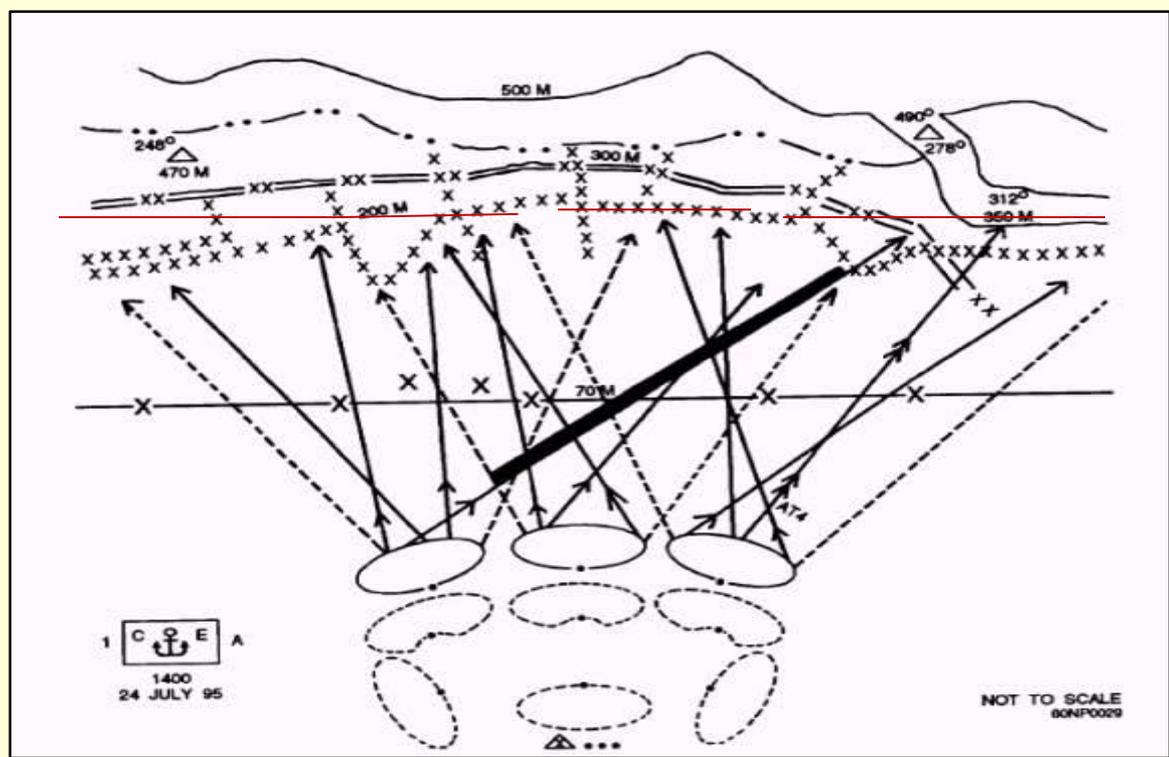
○ Battle Position:

- A position assigned to battalions, companies and platoons, which the main effort of defense is concentrated.



DEFENSIVE COMBAT (Definitions)

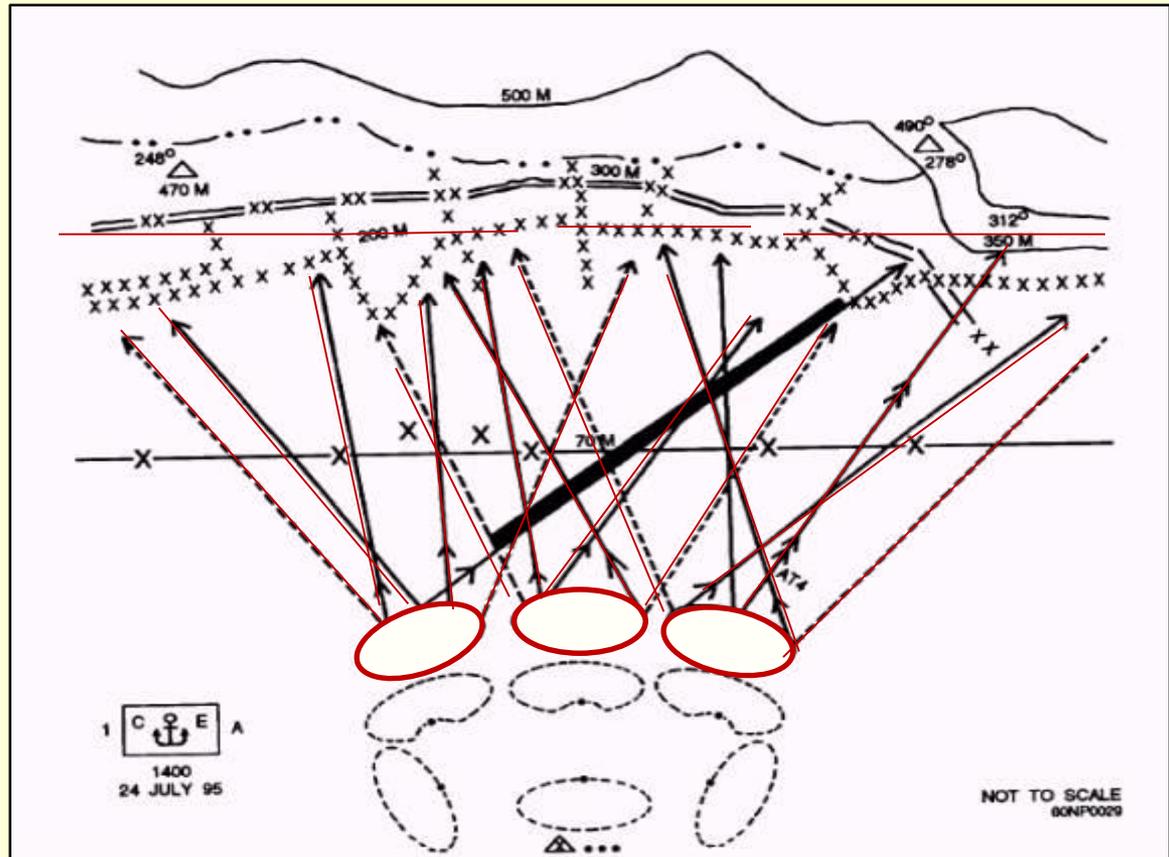
- **Forward Edge of the Battle Area (FEBA):**
 - The foremost limits of a series of areas in which ground combat units are deployed. The FEBA is a control measure that divides the security area from the main battle area. The FEBA need not be physically occupied, but it should be controlled by friendly fire.



DEFENSIVE COMBAT (Definitions)

○ Main Battle Area:

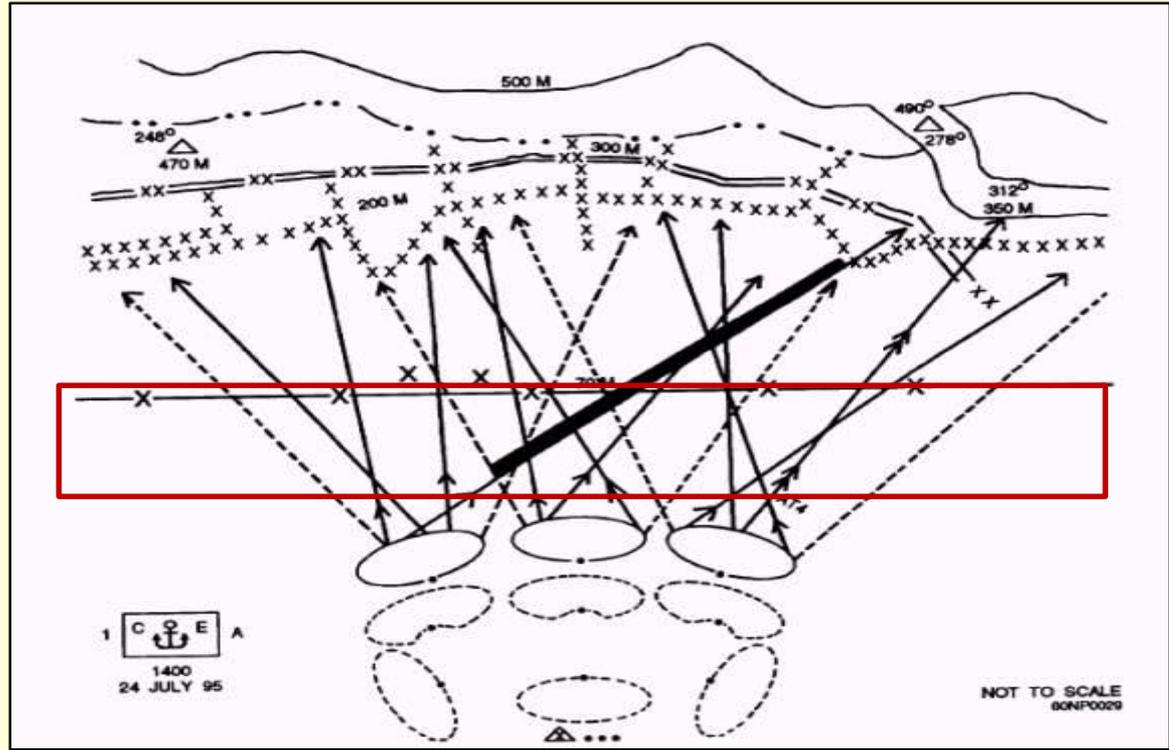
- Extends from the FEBA to the rear. It is here that the decisive defensive battle is fought. The main battle area is organized into sectors of defense that are assigned to subordinate units.



DEFENSIVE COMBAT (Definitions)

○ Security Area:

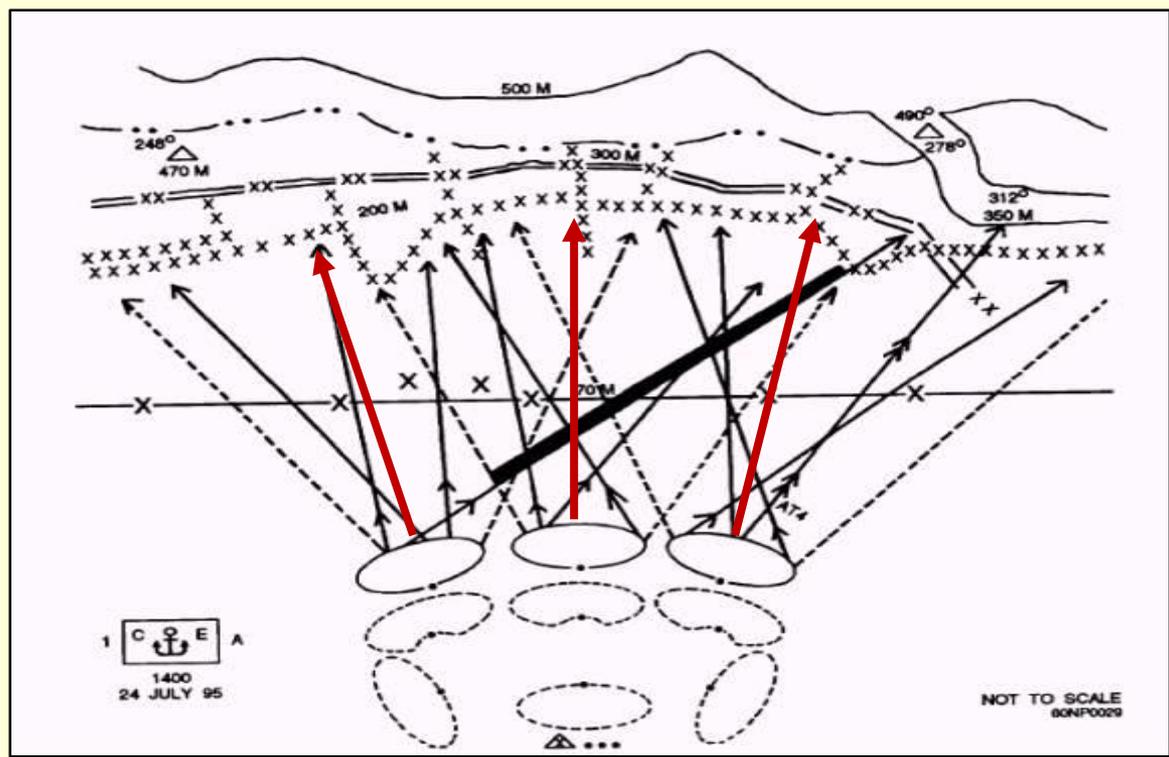
- Is located forward of the FEBA. The squad may be assigned as part of a larger security force or may only be responsible for local security in front of the platoon battle position.



DEFENSIVE COMBAT (Definitions)

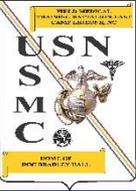
○ Principle Direction of Fire:

- Is a specific direction within the sector of fire given to a flat-trajectory weapon and which is designated as its primary fire mission.



QUESTIONS

FUNDAMENTALS OF DEFENSE



○ The Fundamentals of Defense:

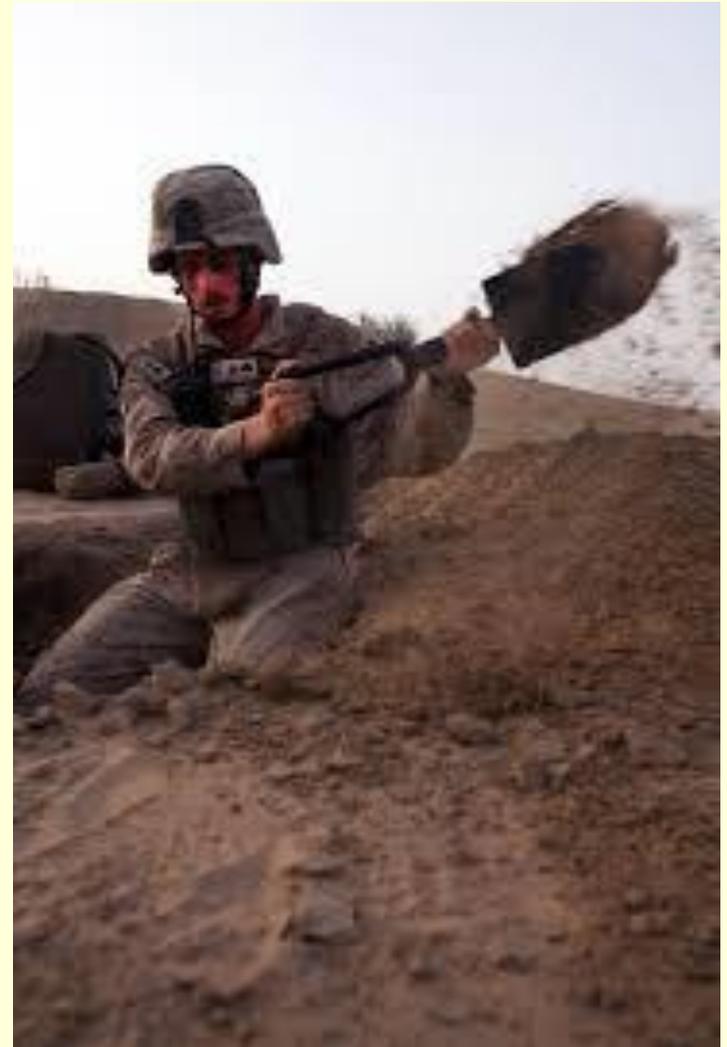
- Are applicable to all tactical levels (Fire Team, Squad, Platoon, Company, Etc.). Application of these fundamentals by all unit leaders increases the chances for a successful defense. The Fundamentals of Defense are as follows;
 - Preparation
 - Concentration
 - Flexibility
 - Maximum Use of Offensive Action
 - Proper Use of Terrain (KOCO A)
 - Mutual Support
 - Defense in Depth
 - Surprise
 - Knowledge of the Enemy

FUNDAMENTALS OF DEFENSE



○ Preparation:

- Normally, the defender will arrive at the battlefield before the attacker. Upon his arrival at the position he is to defend, the squad leader must ascertain from the platoon commander how much time is available to prepare his defensive position. If time is available to prepare the position the squad leader must use it wisely; if not, he prepares a hasty defense.



FUNDAMENTALS OF DEFENSE



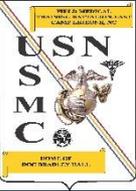
○ Concentration:

- Forces must be concentrated to prepare for attacks at the most likely spots. For the squad leader, this means he will establish his position as directed by the platoon commander.



MCRP 3-10A.4, Para 5104

FUNDAMENTALS OF DEFENSE



○ Flexibility:

- At the squad level, flexibility is achieved through the continuous development of various courses of action to meet the enemy threat. The squad leader should be continuously be asking himself, “What do I do if the enemy does this...?”.



MCRP 3-10A.4, Para 5104

FUNDAMENTALS OF DEFENSE



○ **Maximum Use of Offensive Action:**

- The squad will normally be tasked by the platoon commander to conduct various types of patrols to maintain contact with the enemy. Additionally, the squad leader must instill in his men an offensive state of mind and aggressive spirit.



MCRP 3-10A.4, Para 5104

FUNDAMENTALS OF DEFENSE



○ Proper Use of Terrain: (KOCO A)

- Take maximum advantage of the military aspects of terrain;
 - **K**ey Terrain
 - **O**bservation
 - **C**over & Concealment
 - **O**bstacles
 - **A**venues of Approach



FUNDAMENTALS OF DEFENSE



○ Mutual Support:

- Units and supporting weapons are located and employed so that they can assist on another. An isolated unit is easily destroyed by the enemy. Positions should be located so that when attacking one, the enemy comes under fire from at least one other.



MCRP 3-10A.4, Para 5104

FUNDAMENTALS OF DEFENSE



○ Defense in Depth:

- The squad employs everyone online when deployed. The squad engages the enemy at maximum small arms range and continues to fire until the enemy is stopped. If the attacker penetrates the frontline squads, those squads may move to supplementary positions to engage the enemy, or they may be part of a counter-attack to drive the enemy back.



MCRP 3-10A.4, Para 5104

FUNDAMENTALS OF DEFENSE



○ Surprise:

- The squad leader must employ every means available to mislead the enemy as to the true location of his positions, his strength, and the disposition of his organic weapons as well as any crew-served weapons located in his sector.



MCRP 3-10A.4, Para 5104

FUNDAMENTALS OF DEFENSE



○ Knowledge of the Enemy:

- Since the defense reacts largely to what the attacker does, the squad leader should find out from the platoon commander, the capabilities of the enemy facing him. Having an idea as to what the enemy can do, what weapons he will employ, and what his strength is, will help the squad leader organize his defense to meet that threat.



MCRP 3-10A.4, Para 5104

QUESTIONS

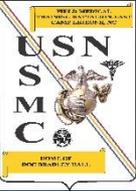
DEFENSIVE MISSIONS OF THE SQUAD



○ **The Mission of the Marine Rifle Squad:**

- in the defense is, with the support of other arms, to stop the enemy by fire as he approaches the battle position, to repel his assault by close combat if he reaches the battle position, and to destroy him by counterattack if he enters the battle position.
- Units in the defense are normally broken down into three squads:
 - **The Front-Line Squad**
 - **The Squad as part of The Reserves**
 - **The Squad as a Security Element.**
- Each of these squads have their own mission.

DEFENSIVE MISSIONS OF THE SQUAD

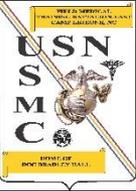


○ Frontline Squad:

- Mission is to stop the enemy by fire forward of the platoon battle position and repel him by close combat if he reaches the platoon battle position. The squad holds its fighting position at all costs and withdraws or occupies other fighting positions only on orders from higher authority.



DEFENSIVE MISSIONS OF THE SQUAD



○ Squad as Part of the Reserves:

- The squad is normally assigned a fighting position to the rear of the frontline units and supports them by fire. The fighting position and sector of fire is assigned to concentrate fire in the rear, on the flanks, or into a gap between the front line.



DEFENSIVE MISSIONS OF THE SQUAD



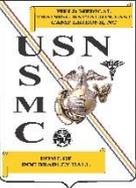
○ Squad as a Security Element:

- During the defense the squad may serve as part of the security element located forward of the platoon battle position. The squad's mission in this capacity is to gain information about the enemy and to deceive, delay, and disorganize his advance.



MCRP 3-10A.4, Para 5105

DEFENSIVE MISSIONS OF THE SQUAD



○ The Marine Rifle Squad:

- is comprised of **(3) Fire Teams**. Each Fire Team Member has a specific assigned responsibility.



MCRP 3-10A.4, Para 5105

FIRE TEAM MEMBERS



○ **Automatic Rifleman:**

- Since the automatic rifles are the backbone of the squad's defense, once the automatic rifle's exact fighting position and principle direction of fire is established, the remainder of the fire team is then positioned around it.

○ **Assistant Automatic Rifleman:**

- Normally, the assistant automatic rifleman participates in the defense as a rifleman. He is positioned near or with the automatic rifleman because he must be prepared to assume the duties of the automatic rifleman.

FIRE TEAM MEMBERS



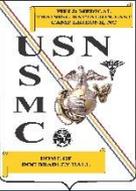
○ Rifleman:

- The rifleman is positioned so he can cover the entire fire team sector if possible. His position must provide support and protection for the automatic rifleman.

○ Fire Team Leader:

- Usually the fire team leader's position is at the center of the fire team where he can observe the entire fire team and it's assigned sector of fire.

THE FIRE PLAN SKETCH

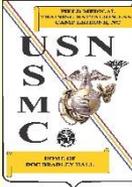


- **The Elements of a Fire Plan Sketch:** A Fire Plan Sketch is a drawing which provides a visual understanding of the Fire Team's combat responsibility, principle direction of fire, assigned weapon positions and sectors of fire.
- **The required elements of a fire plan sketch are as follows:**
 - Primary Position
 - Left And Right Lateral Limits
 - Marginal Information (Marine's name, date, and unit)
 - Magnetic North
 - Alternate And Supplemental Positions
 - Listening Posts and/or Observation Posts
 - Dead Space
 - Terrain Features (*Optional*)
 - Landmarks (*Optional*)
 - Obstacles (*Optional*)



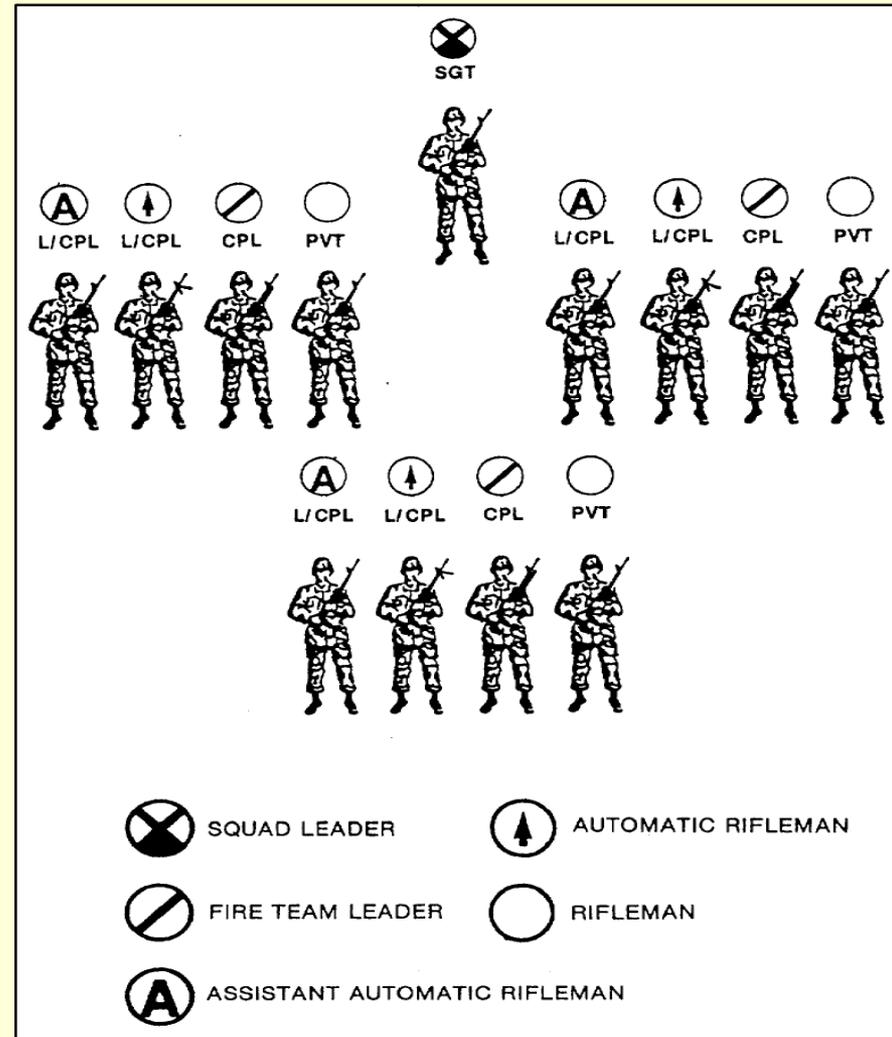
**Read your
Student Outline
for a complete
Fire Plan Sketch
Element
breakdown !**

MILITARY SYMBOLS FOR A FIRE PLAN SKETCH

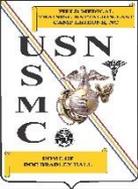


○ Squad Leader and Squad Member Symbols:

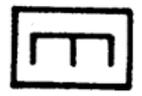
- **Squad Leader** -
M4 Rifle with Bayonet
- **Fire Team Leader/Grenadier** -
M4 Rifle with M203 Grenade Launcher and Bayonet
- **Automatic Rifleman** -
Squad Automatic Weapon (SAW) with Combat Knife
- **Asst. Automatic Rifleman** -
M4 Rifle with Bayonet
- **Rifleman** -
M4 Rifle with Bayonet



MILITARY SYMBOLS FOR A FIRE PLAN SKETCH



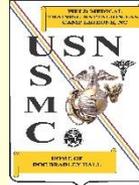
○ Types of Units:

- Infantry Unit - 
- Infantry Headquarters - 
- Infantry Observation Post - 
- Armor - 
- Artillery - 
- Engineer - 
- Mechanized Infantry - 

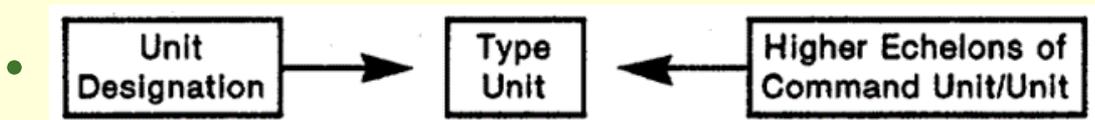
○ Sizes of Units:

- Fire Team - 
- Squad - 
- Section - 
- Platoon - 
- Company or Battery - 
- Battalion or Squadron - 

MILITARY SYMBOLS FOR A FIRE PLAN SKETCH



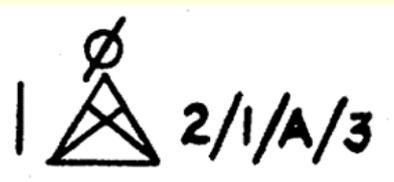
○ Unit Combinations:



- **Example -**
1st Plt., Co. A, 3d Marines

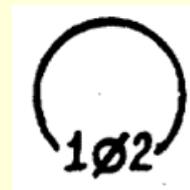


- **Example -**
Observation Post, 1st Fire Team, 2d Squad, Co. A, 3d Marines



○ Location Combinations:

- **Fire Team -**
(1st Fire Team, 2d Squad)



- **Squad -**
(2d Squad, 3d Plt.)



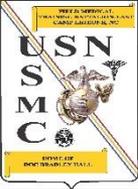
- **Platoon -**
(3d Plt., Co. A)



- **Squad size position proposed for occupation -**
(supplementary position)



MILITARY SYMBOLS FOR A FIRE PLAN SKETCH

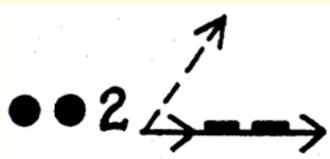


○ Weapons:

- **Automatic Rifle** - showing sector of fire & principle direction of fire



- **2d Machine Gun Section on the FEBA** - Heavy line shows limit of grazing fire on the final protective line.



- **Rocket Launcher** -
- **Claymore Mine** -



○ Obstacles:

- **Antitank Mine** -



- **Antipersonnel Mine** -



- **Antipersonnel Mine with Tripwire** -



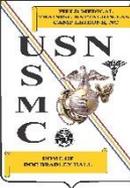
- **Concertina, Single** -



- **Roadblock (completed)** -



MILITARY SYMBOLS FOR A FIRE PLAN SKETCH



○ Enemy Positions:

- Enemy Trenches -



- Enemy Squad-Sized Position -



- Enemy Infantry Observation Post -



○ Misc. Symbols:

- Listening Post -



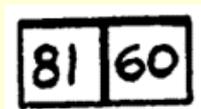
- Sentinel Post-



- Trenches -



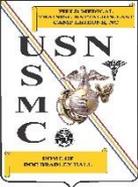
- 81mm & 60mm mortar final protective fire (FPF) side by side -



- Radar Site-

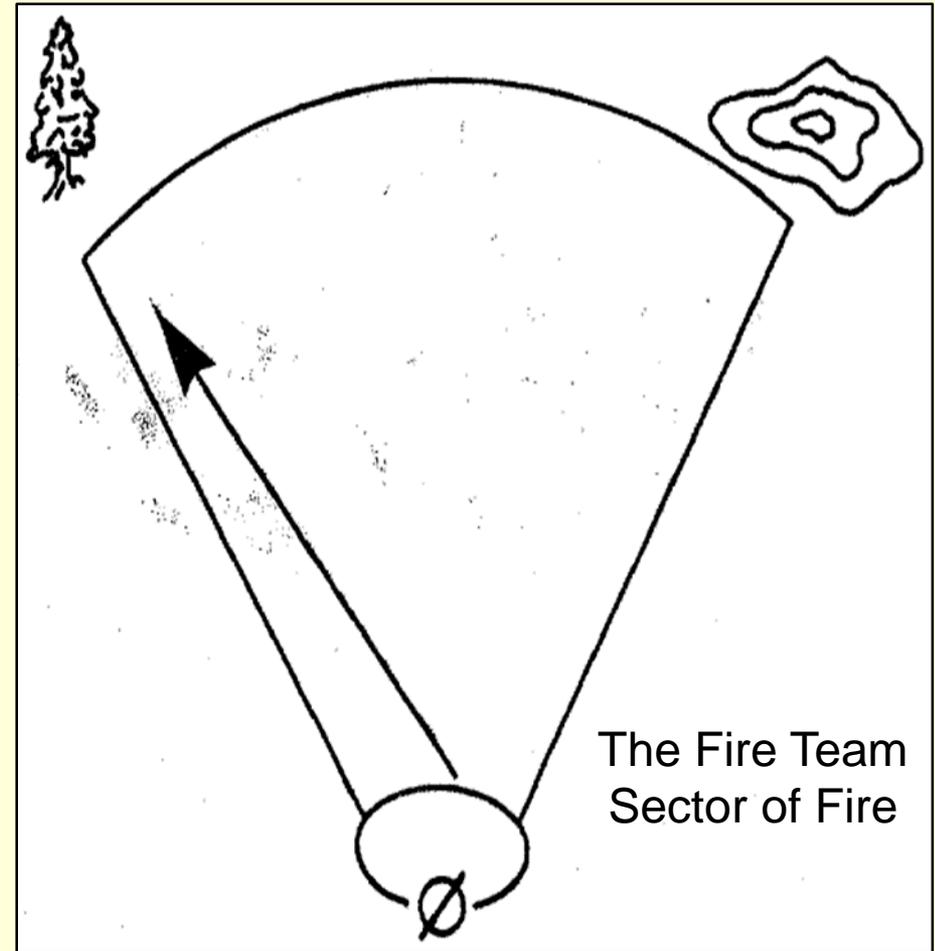


THE SQUAD LEADER AND HIS FIRE PLAN

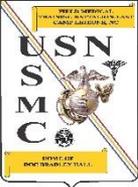


○ The Squad Leader and his Fire Plan:

- The Squad Leader organizes the fire teams in defense by sectors of fire and principal direction of fire for the automatic rifle. He selects terrain features to indicate lateral and forward limits of the sector of fire. He points out on the ground the general location of the fire team fighting positions to be occupied.

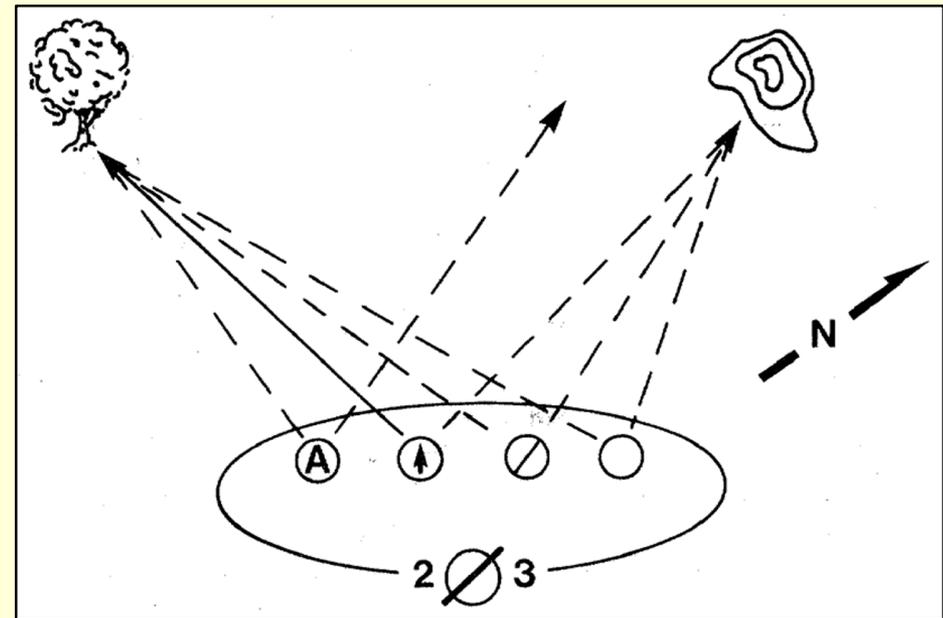


THE FIRE TEAM LEADER AND HIS FIRE PLAN



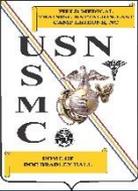
○ The Fire Team Leader and his Fire Plan:

- Based on the Squad Leader's fire plan, the Fire Team Leader formulates the team's fire plan to cover the entire assigned sector. The fire plan includes assignment of individual sectors of fire, individual fighting positions, firing positions and principle direction of fire for the automatic rifle.



The Fire Team Fire Plan

PRIORITIES OF WORK IN THE DEFENSE



○ The Fire Team Priority of Work:

- The organization of the ground, or the construction of the defense, begins as soon as **the Fire Plan is complete** and individual members of the squad have been assigned sectors of fire.
- Priority of Work contains seven tasks using the acronym **S.A.F.E.-S.O.C.**;
 - Post **S**ecurity
 - Position **A**utomatic Rifles
 - Clearing **F**ields Of Fire
 - **E**ntrench
 - **S**upplementary And Alternate Fighting Positions
 - Constructing **O**bstacles
 - **C**amouflage

!!! Read your Student Outline for a complete breakdown of S.A.F.E.- S.O.C. !!!

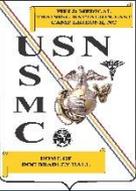
QUESTIONS

DEFENSIVE PROCEDURES



- **Receiving a Defense Order:**
 - Upon receiving the platoon defensive order, the squad leader follows the troop leading steps (BAMCIS) to make the best use of time, equipment, and personnel.
 - **B**egin Planning
 - **A**rrange for Reconnaissance and Planning
 - **M**ake Reconnaissance
 - **C**omplete the Plan
 - **I**ssue the Order
 - **S**upervise Activities
 - Utilizing these steps and satisfactorily completing an estimate of the situation, he issues his squad defensive order.

DEFENSIVE PROCEDURES



- **Receiving a Defense Order (Continued):**
 - The squad leader's Squad Defense Order will contain the following information (in five-paragraph order format);
 - Information about the enemy
 - The mission of the squad
 - Fighting Positions, Sectors of Fire & Principle Direction of Fire
 - Any additional Assignments of Weapons
 - Ground organization, priority of work & squad security
 - Supply details, ammunition resupply & corpsman location
 - Prearranged signals (pyrotechnics, audible signals)
 - The location of the Squad Leader and Platoon Commander

DEFENSIVE PROCEDURES



○ Preparation for Defense:

- After issuing the squad defensive order, the squad leader positions his fire teams to cover the assigned sector of fire. The squad leader's responsibilities during the preparation of fighting include;
 - Verifying each man's ability to cover the sector of fire
 - Assigning each automatic rifleman a principle direction of fire
 - Coordinating with any available crew served weapons
 - Supervising the preparation of fighting holes
 - Supervising the clearing of fields
 - Assigning sentinels or observation post as necessary
 - Coordinating all security measures with adjacent squads
 - Inspecting fighting position camouflage & overhead cover
 - Supervise preparation of supplemental positions
 - Establishing a system of signals & fire control

DEFENSIVE PROCEDURES



○ Giving a Fire Command:

- An **ADDRAC** is a fire command that gives an accurate description of the enemy as well as giving commands to the rest of the unit members. **An ADDRAC contains the following six elements:**
 - **Alert.** Alert all members of the unit to be ready to receive further instructions.
 - **Direction.** Orient the unit to the location of the enemy.
 - **Description.** Give the unit a brief and accurate description of the target.
 - **Range.** Give the unit information needed to adjust point of aim.
 - **(target) Assignment.** Tell the unit who is to fire on which target.
 - **(fire) Control.** Give the unit the command to commence firing. Return fire and gain fire superiority.

DEFENSIVE PROCEDURES



○ **Enemy Preparatory Bombardment:**

- The enemy will normally precede his attack with fire from any or all of the following weapons: artillery, naval gunfire, mortars, machine guns, tanks and aircraft. During this incoming enemy fire, the squad will take cover in its fighting holes, maintaining surveillance to the front, flanks, and rear to determine if the enemy is advancing closely behind their supporting fires.



DEFENSIVE PROCEDURES



○ Opening Fire and Fire Control:

- The squad leader may desire the fire teams to hold their fire until the enemy gets closer than the maximum effective weapons range. In this case, he will establish a signal for commencing fire.
 - When the squad commences fire, weapons will fire at their normal sustained rate.
 - As the enemy gets closer, the rate of fire is increased.



DEFENSIVE PROCEDURES

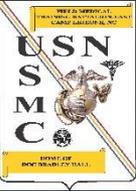


○ Final Protective Fires:

- Final protective fires consist of machine gun fire, mortar and or artillery fire, rifle fire and M-203 fire.
 - Commence on a pre-arranged signal.
 - All weapons fire at a rapid rate.



DEFENSIVE PROCEDURES



○ **Enemy Reaches the Squad's Position:**

- Enemy infantry reaching the squad's fighting position are driven out by fire, grenades, the bayonet and hand-to-hand combat. The success of the defense depends upon each rifle squad defending in place.
- The squad does not withdraw except when specifically directed by higher authority.



QUESTIONS

CHARACTERISTICS OF FIGHTING POSITIONS



○ The Purpose of Fighting Holes:

- Fighting Holes are dug by Marines at their fighting positions. Fighting Holes provide excellent protection against small arms fire, shell fragments, airplane strafing or bombings, the effects of nuclear detonations, and the crushing actions of tanks.
- The type of fighting hole used is based upon squad strength, fields of fire, size of sector of fire, and morale.



CHARACTERISTICS OF FIGHTING POSITIONS

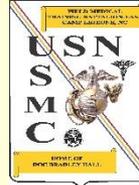


○ Skirmishers Trench:

- The simplest type of dug-in emplacement is also known as the Hasty Firing Position. This shallow pit type of emplacement provides a temporary, open prone firing position for the individual rifleman when time does not allow for the construction of a fighting hole.

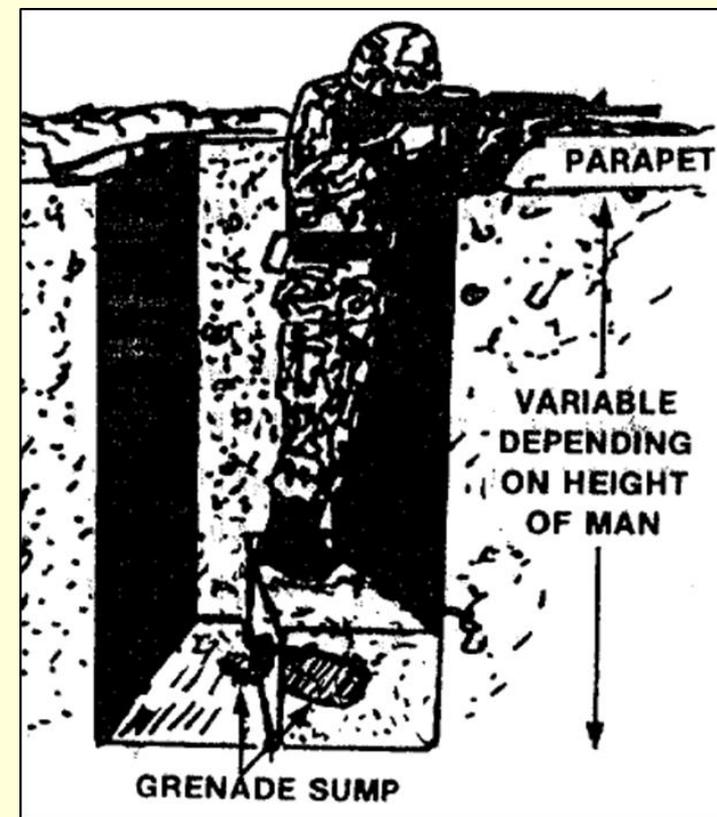


CHARACTERISTICS OF FIGHTING POSITIONS

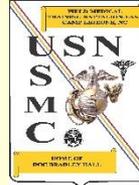


○ One Man Fighting Holes:

- The size and shape are effected by the terrain location and soil conditions. Important considerations are;
 - As small as practical.
 - Allows minimal exposure to the enemy.
 - Wide enough to accommodate the shoulders of a man sitting on the fire step.
 - Long enough to permit the use of an entrenching tool.
 - At least 4 feet deep to the fire step.
 - Standing on the fire step, able to comfortably aim and fire weapon.

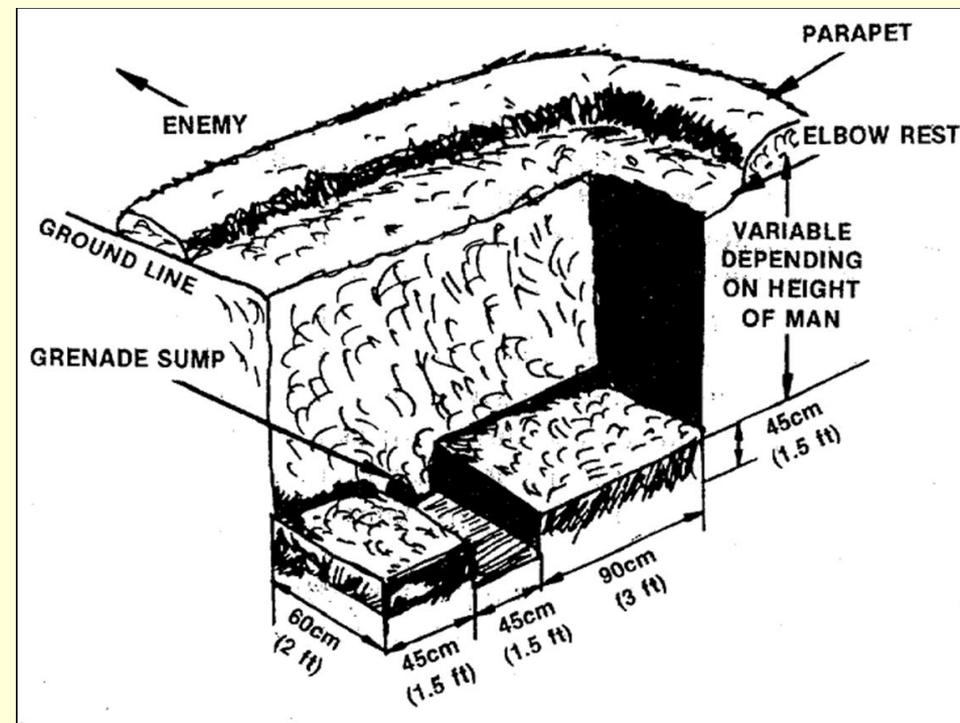


CHARACTERISTICS OF FIGHTING POSITIONS



○ Two Man Fighting Holes:

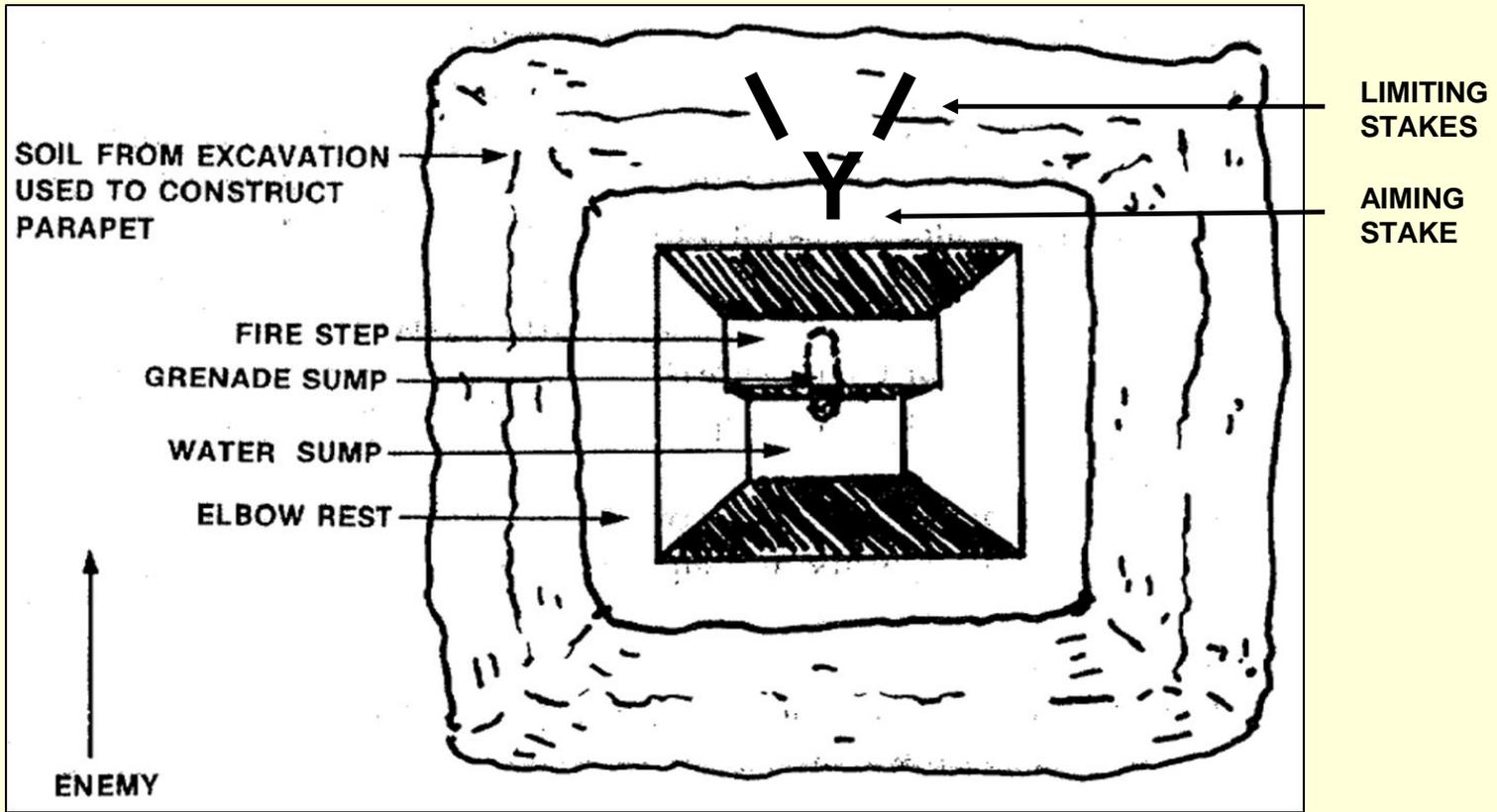
- The two-man fighting hole consists essentially of two adjacent one-man fighting holes. Since it is longer than the one-man type, the two-man fighting hole offers less protection from tank crossing, bombing and shell fragments. Advantages are;
 - Allows continuous observation.
 - Mutual assistance & reassurance.
 - Occupant ammunition redistribution.



COMMON CHARACTERISTICS OF ALL FIGHTING POSITIONS



- Limiting Stakes, Parapet, Elbow Rest, Firing Step, Water & Grenade Sumps and Aiming Stakes:



One-Man Fighting Hole (Vertical View)

CHARACTERISTICS OF FIGHTING POSITIONS



○ Constructing Obstacles:

- The squad may be ordered to construct obstacles such as barbed wire, log & brush barriers, ditches, and hasty protective minefields in order to slow the enemy's advance.



QUESTIONS

SUMMARY



◆ **Defensive Combat**

- Defensive Combat Purpose
- Defensive Combat Mission
- Defensive Combat Definitions

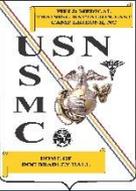
◆ **Fundamentals of Defensive**

- Preparation, Concentration & Flexibility
- Maximum Use of Offensive Action
- Proper Use of Terrain
- Mutual Support & Defense in Depth
- Surprise & Knowledge of the Enemy

◆ **Defensive Missions of the Squad**

- Frontline Squad
- Squad as Part of the Reserves
- Squad as a Security Element

SUMMARY (Continued)



◆ **Military Symbols for a Fire Plan Sketch**

- Squad Leader and Squad Member Symbols
- Types & Sizes of Units
- Combining Basic Symbols (Units & Positions)
- Weapons & Obstacle Symbols
- Miscellaneous & Enemy Position Symbols

◆ **Priorities of Work in the Defense**

- The Squad Leader and his Fire Plan
- The Fire Team Leader and his Fire Plan
- Fire Team Members - (Automatic Rifleman, Assistant Automatic Rifleman & Rifleman)

SUMMARY (Continued)



◆ Defensive Procedures

- Receiving a Defense Order
- Preparation for Defense
- Opening Fire and Fire Control
- Final Protective Fires
- Enemy Reaches the Squad's Position

◆ Characteristics of Fighting Positions

- The Purpose of Fighting Holes
- One Man Fighting Holes
- Two Man Fighting Holes
- Parapet, Elbow Rest & Firing Step
- Water Sump & Grenade Sump
- Skirmishers Trench
- Constructing Obstacles

BACKUP SLIDES

FAIL THIS TEST



AND YOU MAY FIND OUT JUST HOW DEEP
THE RABBIT HOLE GOES...



!!! STUDY !!!

